2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said vector is targeted to tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said localized delivery comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or a local area of said tumor.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said factor is selected from the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor are selected from the group consisting of melanoma cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate carcinoma cells, head and neck cancer cells, breast cancer cells, lung cancer cells, colon cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, renal cancer cells, neuroblastomas, squamous cell carcinomas, hepatoma cells, and mesothelioma and epidermoid carcinoma cells.

23. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (A) a gene therapy vector that contains a gene encoding a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family and (B) a pharmaceutically compatible carrier.

24. (Amended) A gene-therapy method of activating or enhancing a T-cell response in a patient with a tumor, comprising administering to said patient, via localized delivery, a pharmaceutical composition comprising: an expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family, such that (i) said factor is expressed by tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor, and (ii) said T-cell response thereby is activated or enhanced against said tumor.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein said localized delivery comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or local area of said tumor.

26. (Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein said factor is selected form the group consisting of B7-1 and B7-2.

29. (Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor are selected from the group consisting of melanoma cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate carcinoma cells, head and neck cancer cells, breast cancer

cells, lung cancer cells, colon cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, renal cancer cells, neuroblastomas, squamous cell carcinomas, hepatoma cells and mesothelioma and epidermoid carcinoma cells.

32. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (A) a gene encoding a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family and (B) a pharmaceutically compatible carrier.

45. (Amended) The method according to claim 42, wherein said localized delivery comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or a local area of said tumor.

46. (Amended) The method according to claim 45, wherein said localized delivery comprises directly injecting said nucleotide sequence or directly injecting said nucleotide sequence conjugated to a liposome carrier.

Please add the following claims:

48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein said herpes virus vector is a defective HSV vector.

49 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein said herpes virus vector is a recombinant HSV vector.

50. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said herpes virus vector is a defective HSV vector.

51 (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said herpes virus vector is a recombinant HSV vector.

52. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said factor is B7-1.

53. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein said factor is B7-1.

54. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1.

55. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.